

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Previously Presented)

An apparatus for facilitating the servicing of a telecommunications device having a chassis, electronic modules, a backplane, and pin connectors connecting the electronic modules to the backplane, comprising:

a catch basin module insertable into a slot in the telecommunications device in which at least one of the electronic modules would normally be disposed, said catch basin module including:

a rear wall having a window, said window being dimensioned to surround a group of pin connectors disposed on the backplane behind the slot into which said catch basin module is insertable; and

a bottom surface disposed below said window which abuts the backplane under the pin connectors when said catch basin module is inserted into the slot.

Claim 2. (Previously Presented)

The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said bottom surface comprises a ledge projecting out from said catch basin module and having a channel and an upturned distal end, wherein when the pins fall onto said ledge, the pins are retained in said channel.

Claim 3. (Previously Presented)

The apparatus according to Claim 1, said catch basin module further comprising a bottom panel having an upper surface, said bottom surface comprising an angled lip projecting out from said catch basin module, wherein when the pins fall from the pins connectors, the pins strike the angled lip, roll down said angled lip, and come to rest on said upper surface of said bottom panel.

Claim 4. (Previously Presented)

The apparatus according to Claim 1, said rear wall being substantially vertical, wherein when said catch basin module is inserted into the slot, said rear wall blocks access to a portion of the backplane thereby protecting the backplane.

Claim 5. (Previously Presented)

The apparatus according to Claim 1, said catch basin module further comprising:

a bottom panel and side walls disposed on opposite sides of said bottom panel,

wherein when said catch basin module is inserted into the slot, said side walls block access to electronic modules immediately adjacent to the slot, thereby protecting the adjacent electronic modules.

Claim 6. (Previously Presented)

The apparatus according to Claim 1, said catch basin module further comprising an upper panel and a leaf spring disposed on

said upper panel, wherein when said catch basin module is inserted into the slot, said leaf spring biases against the chassis and stabilizes said catch basin module.

Claim 7. (Previously Presented)

The apparatus according to Claim 1, said catch basin module further comprising a handle disposed on a front side of said catch basin module to assist in placing and removing said catch basin module into the slot.

Claim 8. (Previously Presented)

The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said catch basin module is dimensioned to be as wide as at least one of the electronic modules.

Claim 9. (Previously Presented)

The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said catch basin module is dimensioned to be as wide as three of the electronic modules.

Claims 10-18 (Cancelled)